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Foreign Miscellany.

From the United Service Magazine.

NEW BRITISH NAVAL REGULATIONS.—The Queen's New Naval Regulations have during the last month made their appearance, and contain certain changes of importance. To say that they will give entire satisfaction would be advancing too much; but they nevertheless place officers upon a more definite footing, and will have a tendency to remove many erroneous impressions in reference to what were formerly termed "warrant" and "quarter-deck petty" officers.

The chief feature, therefore, in the new regulations is contained in the subjoined classification.

RANK AND COMMAND.

1. The Officers of H. M. Navy shall be divided into two branches, namely, a military branch and a civil branch.

2. They shall be of the undermentioned denominations, and shall rank and take precedence in the following order:—

In the Military Branch.—Flag-Officers, Commodores, Captains, Commanders, Lieutenants, Masters of the Fleets, Masters, Mates, Second Masters, Midshipmen, Masters' Assistants, Naval Cadets, Gunners, Boatswains, Carpenters.

Civil Branch.—Director-General of the Medical Department of the Navy, to rank with but after Commodores; Medical Inspectors of Hospitals and Fleets, to rank with but after Captains under three years' seniority; Secretaries to Flag Officers commanding in chief, and Deputy Medical Inspectors of Hospitals and Fleets, to rank with but after Commanders, and with each other, as here mentioned; Chaplains, Secretaries to Junior Flag-Officers and Commodores of the first class, Surgeons, Paymasters and Pursers, and Naval Instructors, to rank with but after Lieutenants and Masters, and with each other, as here mentioned; Assistant-Surgeons, to rank with but after Mates; Clerks, to rank with but after Masters' Assistants; Clerks' Assistants, to rank with but after Cadets.

The warrant officers, namely, the Gunners, Boatswains, and Carpenters; First Engineers, Second Engineers, and Third Engineers of steam ships, to rank with each other as they are each mentioned, but subordinate to those before specified, and with those of their respective classes, according to the dates of their first warrants.

Under the old regulations the only commissioned naval officers were Flag-Officers, &c., Captains, Commanders, and Lieutenants; by the following it will be seen that there are to be military and civil commissioned officers, and that all will be appointed by the Admiralty, thus:—

By Commission.—*Military.*—Flag-Officers, Commodores, Captains, Commanders, Lieutenants, Masters of the Fleet, Masters, Mates, and Second Masters.

Civil.—Medical Inspectors of Hospitals and Fleets Secretaries, Deputy Medical Inspectors of Hospitals and Fleets, Chaplains, Surgeons, Paymasters and Pursers, and Assistant-Surgeons.

By Order.—Naval Instructors, Midshipmen, Masters' Assistants, Clerks, Naval Cadets, and Clerks' Assistants.

By Warrant.—Gunners, Boatswains, Carpenters, and Engineers

RELATIVE RANK OF OFFICERS OF THE ARMY AND NAVY.

The introduction to the Navy of the permanent ranks of Director-General of the Medical Department, Medical Inspectors, and Deputy Medical Inspectors, and the creating additional commissioned officers, has occasioned a new regulation to define the relative rank of officers in the two Services, and we find this arranged as follows:—

Admirals of the Fleet shall rank with Field Marshals of the Army; Admirals with Generals; Vice-Admirals with Lieutenant-Generals; Rear-Admirals with Major-Generals; Commodores of the first class, Commodores of the second class, and Director-General of the Medical Department of the Navy, with Brigadier-Generals; Captains, after three years from the first dates of their commissions as Captains, with Colonels; all other Captains, and Medical Inspectors of Hospitals and Fleets, with Lieutenant-Colonels; Commanders, Secretaries to Flag-Officers Commanding-in-Chief, and Deputy Medical Inspectors of Hospitals and Fleets, with Majors; Lieutenants, Masters of the Fleet, Masters, Chaplains, Secretaries to Junior Flag-Officers and Commodores of the first class, Surgeons, Paymasters and Pursers, with Captains; Mates, and Assistant-Surgeons, with Lieutenants; Second Master, and Midshipmen, with Ensigns.

WIDOWS' PENSIONS.

The following are the regulations concerning Widows' Pensions

Scale of pensions to be allowed to the widows of naval and marine officers who may be killed in action, or who may die a violent death in the immediate execution of some act of duty, viz:—

To the Widows of Flag and General Officers.—According to the case.

Chaplains, Colonels, and Lieutenant-Colonels.—If killed in action, 200*l.*; if drowned, or other violent death in an immediate act of duty, 120*l.*

Commanders and Majors.—If killed in action, 120*l.*; if drowned, or other violent death in an immediate act of duty, 90*l.*

Medical Inspectors of Hospitals and Fleets.—If killed in action, 90*l.*; if drowned, or other violent death in an immediate act of duty, 80*l.*

Secretaries to Commanders-in-Chief, and Deputy Medical Inspectors of Hospitals and Fleets.—If killed in action, 80*l.*; if drowned, or other violent death in an immediate act of duty, 70*l.*

Lieutenants and Masters in the Navy, and Captains in the Royal Marines.—If killed in action, 70*l.*; if drowned, or other violent death in an immediate act of duty, 60*l.*

Chaplains, Secretary to Junior Flag-Officers, Surgeons, Paymasters and Purser, and Naval Instructors.—If killed in action, 60*l.*; if drowned, or other violent death in an immediate act of duty, 50*l.*

First Lieutenants in the Royal Marines.—If killed in action, 60*l.*; if drowned, or other violent death in an immediate act of duty, 50*l.*

Second Lieutenants in the Royal Marines, and Assistant Surgeons in the Navy.—If killed in action, 50*l.*; if drowned, or any other violent death in an immediate act of duty, 40*l.*

Gunners, Boatswains, Carpenters, and Engineers.—If killed in action, 35*l.*; if drowned, or other violent death in an immediate act of duty, 30*l.*

COMPASSIONATE ALLOWANCES.

The allowances from the Compassionate Fund are also better regulated; and the clauses for granting pensions—(in lieu of a gratuity which was formerly only allowed—) to a widowed mother of an unmarried officer killed in action, or to a sister or sisters, under certain restrictions, are highly praiseworthy. The new scale of Compassionate Allowances, and the circumstances under which pensions are to be granted, are thus stated:

Children.—The allowance to children of officers of the Navy and Royal Marines, whether killed in action, or dying under other circumstances, are to be as follows:—To the children of Flag-Officers, if killed in action, 25*l.* to 40*l.*; if not killed in action, 16*l.* to 20*l.*; to the children of Captains, Colonels, and Lieutenant-Colonels, if killed in action, 18*l.* to 25*l.*; if not killed in action, 14*l.* to 16*l.*; to the children of Commanders, Majors, and Medical Inspectors of Hospitals and Fleets, if killed in action, 16*l.* to 20*l.*; if not in action, 12*l.* to 14*l.*; to the children of Secretaries to Commanders-in-Chief, Lieutenants of the Navy, Deputy-Inspectors of Fleets and Hospitals, Masters, and Captains of Marines, if killed in action, 12*l.* to 16*l.*; if not killed in action, 9*l.* to 12*l.*; to the children of Lieutenants of Marines, Chaplains (if on full pay at the time of their death,) Secretaries to junior Flag-Officers and Commanders, Surgeons, Paymasters and Purser, Naval Instructors, and Assistant-Surgeons, if killed in action, 8*l.* to 14*l.*; if not killed in action, 5*l.* to 10*l.*

Mothers.—Where an officer is killed in action, and leaves no widow nor legitimate child, but leaves a mother who is a widow in distressed circumstances, and who was dependent upon him, the mother shall receive a pension equal to the ordinary rate of widow's pension attached to the rank which her son held at the time of his death; if such mother shall herself be in the receipt of a pension as an officer's

widow, or shall have any other provision of any kind from the public, in that case no allowance will be made to her on account of her son, unless she gives up the other pension or allowance; and the pension given to a mother on account of her son, will be forfeited on remarriage.

Sisters.—Sisters of officers are not eligible to any allowance, unless under very special and extraordinary circumstances, to be judged of by the Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury. The allowance will not exceed that which would be given to a mother, and will not be given in any case unless the officer shall have fallen in action, or shall die of wounds received in action, within six months after being wounded, and shall have left no widow, legitimate child, nor mother, nor unless the sister be an orphan having no surviving brother, and shall have been dependent for support upon the officer killed. Every pension granted, will cease when the person receiving it shall marry, or be in any other manner provided for.

The above regulations are now in force.

The changes relative to pay, which do not come into operation until the 1st April next, are as under:

	£	s.	d.	
Captains of ships-of-the-line, except flag-ships, -	53	14	9	per month.
<i>Thus reducing the pay of Captains of first-rates 7<i>l.</i> 12<i>s.</i> 7<i>d.</i> per month.</i>				
Captains of line-of-battle ships of the ordinary, and such establishments, -	46	0	8	"
Captains of regular flag-ships, and of fourth-rates, -	38	7	0	"
All other Captains, -	30	13	8	"
<i>Thus equalizing the pay of Captains of 4th, 5th, and 6th rates, and raising the pay of Captains of 6th rates, 3<i>l.</i> 16<i>s.</i> 8<i>d.</i> per month.</i>				
Masters of the Fleet, -	22	19	8	"
Masters in line-of-battle ships, -	16	6	8	"
Ditto, in all others, -	14	0	0	"
<i>Thus raising the pay in sloops and smaller vessels, 2<i>l.</i> 6<i>s.</i> per month.</i>				
Clerks in line-of-battle ships, -	4	6	4	"
Ditto, in all other ships, -	4	0	0	"
<i>Thus decreasing the pay in 1st rates 8<i>s.</i> per month, and increasing it in frigates and small vessels, 9<i>s.</i> per month.</i>				

COURTS MARTIAL.—A question having arisen as to the legality of commanders of line-of-battle ships sitting on courts martial, the Admiralty have issued a circular order, stating that on the authority of the war officers of the Crown, commanders of ships bearing captains are eligible to serve on courts martial, according to their seniority; but that captains and commanders serving as secretaries to flag-officers cannot legally sit on such courts, and are not, therefore, to be called upon to do so.—*U. Service Gazette.*

BRITISH NAVAL REGULATIONS.—The Lords of the Admiralty are preparing not only a new set of naval regulations and instructions, but also a general code of port orders, for which purpose a clerk from the Admiralty has recently visited each of the outposts, and examined into the local orders. It is intended to deliver a copy of the port orders to every captain immediately he has commissioned a ship, so that the difficulty at present experienced by a captain on first joining his ship, arising from his uncertain knowledge of his first act of duty, will be obviated, and officers be no longer called upon to copy three or four hundred written general orders, of which perhaps not one half are in force, or of any utility.—*United Service Gazette*.

CAVALRY.—A pamphlet "On the Grand Attacks of Cavalry in the Battles of Frederick (the Great) and Napoleon, as showing the Decline in the Application of this mode of Aggression," has of late created much sensation in the military circles of Prussia. The author vehemently condemns the cavalry system which now prevails, and insists upon the contrary tactics adopted by Frederick the Great as a model of perfection. He observes, that the principal causes of the decline of this branch of military art are, that the "esprit" which animated the cavalry in his time, has gradually disappeared from the Prussian ranks, and that men have lost sight of the real nature of this sinew of war; for at present, be the circumstances what they may, it is always combined with artillery, so that the cavalry has assumed a *passive* character, which is quite alien to its native destination and spirit. He admits, that it is necessary, when cavalry is employed on isolated operations, that it should always be supported by artillery: but he affirms it to be quite foreign to its character, that, when it is destined to lead to any decisive result in a conflict, it should be *hampered* with artillery; the object to be kept in view by masses of horsemen being, the waiting for the precise moment when they can act with most effect, and then rushing on like a storm, and overwhelming their enemy, before he has time to resort to any means of parrying the blow. Surprise and rapidity are the conditions of victory; and it is quite obvious, that such an assault must lose much of its moral and physical effect, if the enemy be forewarned of it, as is the practice of modern times, by the roar of artillery. It is the writer's opinion, that the time is come for returning to the tactics of Frederick the Great, heralded as it is by the recent publication of "Instructions for Organizing and applying large masses of Cavalry." There is much talent in the few pages which he has given us on this important subject; and their value is enhanced by historical dates. His name does not appear, nor is it otherwise known.

NEW EXPLOSIVE POWER.—We have received some information, on which we can safely rely, respecting a discovery which is likely to triumph over the difficulties that have hitherto seemed insurmountable to those who have previously pursued their experiments in the department of science to which it pertains. The discovery relates to a combination of chemical

substances so subtle, and yet, when brought into action, so immense in their explosive results, as to bid defiance to resistance by opposing substances, however powerful; while the period of the explosion can be so nicely regulated as to enable those who employ them to calculate with precision the time when the explosion shall take place. The form of this tremendous missile is globular; the size of it regulated to the purpose for which it is to be employed. It may be propelled from a musket, a cannon, or a bomb, and may be thrown with the same precision as common balls or shells.

At four yards distance a ball prepared by the substances we have alluded to, and after lying in a perfectly quiescent state for several minutes, split asunder a large tree, in the presence of our informant. So perfectly harmless is this extraordinary agent, except under the conditions which are essential to bringing its occult powers into action, that the balls may be carried about in the pocket, or conveyed from place to place, in any numbers, in boxes or barrels, without the slightest danger; it may even be cast down, with any force, upon iron or stone, and no other effect be produced than if the ball itself were a solid mass of stone or iron.

The attention of the Board of Ordnance has, we understand, been called to this newly discovered application of chemical properties to the purpose of military operations. Several experiments, each exceeding the former in the force opposed to the explosive power, have been made in the presence of the Master General of the Board of Ordnance and several of the most eminent officers of engineers, and with the most decided success, both as to the destructive energies of the explosions, and the precision with respect to time and place, when and where the effects were to be accomplished. As a final test of the nature and extent of this newly discovered power, we understand that the Board of Ordnance has directed a building to be constructed in the Woolwich marshes, of the strongest description; its several parts to be fastened together by bolts and bars, so as to bid defiance to any mode of bombardment now in use. The inventor has, we are assured, requested that no effort should be spared to render this building impregnable, and places the efficiency of his discovery on this test.

We have given this account, as we have received it from a source on the integrity and means of information of which we can rely. The name of the scientific discoverer has been communicated to us.

Though, for obvious reasons, we are unable to describe the elementary parts of the composition, or the process by which the result is produced, we are assured that the facts we have stated respecting its tremendous powers are within the truth. If in the approaching trial of its efficiency to which we have alluded, it achieves the results predicted by its inventor, we need scarcely say that no discovery in chemistry, since the invention of gunpowder, will have operated so entire a change in the mode of carrying on military operations, or have caused so salutary a dread of military bombardment, as this new power will produce. We have said enough to whet the curiosity of men of science, and especially of military men. We shall shortly be in a situation to state whether failure has exploded the pretensions, or success has rewarded the labors, of this new candidate for fame and fortune.—*London Weekly Times*.

Stations of the British Army near the United States, February, 1844.

1st Foot 2d Battalion;	81st do. Canada.
Quebec, (Left wing at	82d do. Quebec.
Barbadoes.)	85th do. Barbadoes.
14th do. Canada.	89th do. Canada.
20th do. Bermuda.	92d do. Trinidad.
Do. (Reserve battalion,)	93d do. Canada.
Bermuda.	Rifle Brigade (2d bat-
23d do. Barbadoes.	lion,) Halifax, N. S.
Do. (Reserve battalion,)	Do. (Reserve battalion,)
Canada.	Halifax, N. S.
23d do. Halifax.	1st West India Regiment,
43 do. Montreal.	Demerara, &c.
60th do. (2d battalion,)	20th do. Jamaica & Ba-
maica.	hamas.
68th do. Canada.	Royal Canadian Rifle Re-
71st do. (Reserve bat-	giment, Canada.
lion,) Canada.	Royal Newfoundland Com-
74th do. Montreal.	panies, Newfoundland.
77th do. Jamaica.	

Stations of the British Navy in commission, near the United States, February, 1844, with the years when the vessels were built and the dates of commission of the officers in command.

Albatross, 16, 1842, Com. R. Yorke, 1833, N. A.
Columbia, steamer, Lt. Com. J. Harding, 1815, North America.
Electra, 18, 1837, Com. A. Darley, 1827, W. I.
Fair Rosamond, 2, Lt. Com. Bulman, N. A.
Gleaner, 2, steamer, Com. Robinson, 1838, Bermuda.
Griffin, 3, 1832, Lt. Com. Jenkin, 1829, N. A.
Helena, 16, Lt. Com. Carr, 1821, West Indies.
Hornet, 6, 1831, Lt. Comm. Miller, 1837, W. I.
Illustrious, 72, 1803, Vice Admiral Sir C. Adam, H. C. B., Capt. J. E. Erskine; 1838, N. Am.
Imaum, rec. ship, Commodore A. R. Sharpe, C. B., 1843, Jamaica.
Lark, 4, sur. ves., 1830, Lt. Com. G. B. Lawrence, 1843, West Indies.
Pickle, 2, 1827, Lt. Com. J. A. Bainbridge, 1826 West Indies.
Pique, 36, 1834, Capt. the Hon. M. Stopford, 1825 North America.
Ringdove, 16, 1833, Com. Sir W. Daniell, Knt., 1826, North America.
Romney, depot, 1815, Lt. Com. R. McClure, 1837, Havana.
Rose, 1821, Com. H. R. Strut, 1830, N. America.
Spartan, 26, 1821, Capt. the Hon. C. G. J. B. Elliott, 1841, West Indies.
Thunder, 6, sur. ves., 1829, Com. E. Barnett, 1838, West Indies.
Vestal, 26, 1833, Capt. C. Talbot, 1830, N. Am.
Wasp, 16, 1812, Com. H. Bagot, 1838, W. I.

SAXONY.—The military establishment of this kingdom consists, at present, of one brigade of *Cavalry*, composed of three regiments, six squadrons each strong, and 1885 men. The *Infantry* comprises one division of Life Guards, of two companies, and 363 men; two brigades of Infantry of the Line, composed of three regiments, each having three battalions, and the whole mustering 5577 men; one demi-brigade of Light Infantry, of three battalions, and 2133 men; one regiment of *Foot Artillery*, of ten companies, and 785 men; one brigade of *Horse Artillery*, of two companies, and 148 men; one brigade of Baggage Train, of 186 men; a corps of Engineers, with a company of Sappers and Pontoonmen, 143 men; and 12 men attached to the Staff. The total number of effectives, or combatants, is 13,001, and non-effectives, 136: entire strength on the rolls, 13,427.

Domestic Miscellany.

From the Boston Mercantile Journal.

QUICK PASSAGES TO INDIA.—*Mr. Editor*: Presuming that you take some interest in recording the passages of fast vessels, and with a desire to collect facts myself in such matters, I would call your attention to the following: The *Horatio*, Capt. Howland, of New York, has made four successive passages to Java Head and Sandal-Wood Island, from New York, averaging 86½ days each, and has made four successive passages from Java Head to New York, averaging 86½ days! During her last voyage, she averaged by observation, during eight successive days, 231 miles per day, or about 9½ knots per hour; and during another seven days, she averaged 229, or about 9½ miles per hour. The ship *Mary Ellen*, outward bound to China, in 1841, averaged 230 miles per day during ten days, 220 for twenty days, by observation, and over 200 miles per day for thirty successive days, and she stands at the head of a list of some thirty vessels whose runs outward I have procured.

The performance of the *Paul Jones*, homeward bound, drawing over 17 feet, stands, so far, unrivalled. She made 234 miles per day for twelve successive days, by observation—between Java and the Isle of France—being an average of 9½ knots. During this time she averaged during six successive days, 255 miles, or at the rate of 10½ knots per hour. But one day she made 267 miles, or at the rate of 11½ knots per hour, for that day.

The brig *Antelope* has proved herself to be as good a sailer as was expected, having arrived at Bombay in 94 days. She sailed August 9, sea account, and arrived 11th November—crossed the equator in 29 days, beating every inch of the way, and for fifty days, after taking in her studding sails off Cohasset Rocks, she never had an opportunity of setting them. Captain Dumaresq says: "The *Antelope* goes 10 knots close hauled without any difficulty, and 11 is her maximum speed before the wind, which the *Akbar* could readily exceed; but when she is brought on a wind, I am lost in amazement and admiration of her sailing, for then she goes nine and ten knots, when that ship would go only five or six knots. I have not yet reefed a topsail, or lowered them since I sailed, excepting once to set my rigging, (67 days out.)

Robinson's steering apparatus works to a charm, and this is the first passage I ever made without any anxiety about wheel ropes, &c. With this machine, a child of ten years can steer any vessel; the immediate action of the wheel on the rudder is such as to prevent many accidents which occur in scudding, from not being able to give the ship her helm quickly. The *Antelope* requires little or no helm; in running before a strong breeze and heavy sea she can be steered within half a point."

In a subsequent letter, Capt. Dumaresq announces his arrival at Bombay, without reefing a topsail, and after a most "tedious" passage of ninety four days. The *Brandywine* frigate was eighty days from Rio Janeiro, and could not have gone at a worse season than the *Antelope*. An English barque, built ex-

pressly to beat all competitors in India arrived the day before the Antelope, one hundred and six days from London.

After a critical examination of the log of the brig, I find it tells the following story;—Distance made good, (exclusive, of course, of angles by tacking during the day,) aggregate 15,260 miles, being over 162 miles per day.

Third, fourth, and fifth days out, made, close jammed, an average of 224 miles per day, or $9\frac{1}{2}$ miles per hour.

The six best successive days, crossing the S. E. trades, made an average of 217 miles per day, or over 9 knots, and braced up as sharp as possible. The best single day during that time, 233, and three of them averaged 227— $9\frac{1}{2}$ knots. The best twelve successive days running up easting, between lon. 1 deg. W., and 51 deg. E., 214 miles per day, nearly 9 knots—out of which 12 days she averaged 227 for 6 days, or nearly $9\frac{1}{2}$ knots; best single day during that time, 255, with all sail set; in crossing the S. E. trades to the Eastward of the Cape, average for six days, 214; best single day, 234, and for 26 successive days she averaged 198 6-10 miles, or over $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles per hour.

These facts are taken from the daily run, and carefully examined, and may be depended on.

F.

QUICK.—The Ann M'Kim, Capt. Vasmer, arrived last evening, has made three passages between New York and Canton, fully laden each way, since the 15th of last February, that is in 12 months and 6 days. She was absent from Canton but 6 months and 25 days, having delivered and taken in full cargoes at this port in the interim.—*N. Y. Courier.*

FROM THE AFRICAN SQUADRON.—Through the kindness of an officer of the United States ship Saratoga, who has just returned to this country, the editor of the United States Gazette has received later news from the African coast, and interesting accounts of the doings of the U. S. Squadron, under the command of Commodore Perry.

On the 4th December last, three vessels of the squadron, the U. S. frigate Macedonian, Commodore Perry, sloop Saratoga, Commander Tatnall, and sloop Decatur, Commander Abbott, met at Monrovia, and after taking the Governor of Monrovia on board, sailed down the coast with the intention of ascertaining and punishing the particular tribe of Africans, who about two years ago murdered the captain and crew of the schooner Mary Carver. On the 12th, about sixty or eighty miles below Cape Palmas, the vessels came to anchor, about a mile off a town situated in the district known as Bereby, the cables having springs upon them. As soon as the vessel hove to, a white flag was raised upon the shore, and the day following the officers and crews of the vessels, to the number of about five hundred, all fully armed, landed in boats. A rude council house was erected upon the beach, and soon after it was completed the African King and his interpreter came down, attended by a number of his people, all armed. A *palaver* was held, but the answers requested by Com. Perry

were not given, and the whole conversation was very unsatisfactory. The Commodore continuing to press close upon the King his questions concerning the fate of the Mary Carver and her crew, the King, the interpreter and the African people, turned and ran toward a neighboring jungle, but before the King had traversed twenty yards, a volley from the American sailors instantly killed both him, the interpreter, and others of the fugitives.

The natives were armed with good English muskets, and loaded them with copper slugs, nails, and any other missile they could force into the barrel of the weapon.

The people of the town itself, immediately took to the jungle, after the retreat of those who had attended the King, and continued for an hour firing from it upon the Americans, who returned their volleys with interest, and finally advanced upon the town itself, forced the strong picket fence by which it was surrounded, burned it to ashes, destroyed their canoes, and then returned to their ships, from which, during the continuance of the fight, shells had constantly been thrown into the jungle. The natives had evidently been prepared for battle, for all their women and children had been removed from the town.

On the 15th, the boats' crews landed about six miles farther down the coast, but while approaching the shore, were frequently fired upon by the natives. After landing, *five* more towns were burnt to ashes, upwards of one hundred canoes destroyed, and other damage inflicted. In one of these towns the register of the Mary Carver, a private letter of the captain of that vessel, and several other papers were found: thus clearly proving that punishment was being inflicted in the right quarter.

After the destruction of these towns, the boats returned to the ships and sail was made about eight miles farther down, the white flag being hoisted. A treaty of peace was made with a tribe at this place and information gained that at least fifty of the natives in the towns above had been killed.

Several of the American sailors were badly wounded, but none killed.

A disturbance which had arisen at Cape Palmas, also, was settled by Com. Perry. A part of the settlement at Cape Palmas is upon the extreme point of the cape, and the other part about a mile inland. Between the two is an African settlement, the King of which had forbidden any communication or trade between the two parts of the cape settlement, unless a certain price was paid to him for his rice. After remaining here for two days, the vessels again made sail for Monrovia.

The Saratoga sailed from Monrovia on 6th Jan. for Madeira, where she arrived on the 26th, and sailed again for the coast on the 20th. Just before she left Monrovia, information was received of the death of the Rev. Mr. Sawyer, one of the Missionaries, stationed about fifty miles below that colony.

The U. S. brig Porpoise was upon the coast at the same time, and had gone to the windward for supplies.

Midshipman Law, of the frigate Macedonian, returned to this country in the barque Backus, along with Lieutenant Ferris, our informant. The health of the squadron was represented as being good.

From the North American.

THE GOWN IN THE NAVY.—I see that several religious papers ascribe the introduction of the gown into the Navy as the costume of Chaplains to *sectarian* purposes in the Department. The facts are these. At a meeting of several Chaplains of the Navy, I was appointed to correspond with the Department in reference to a change in our uniform, and to prefer a request that when performing religious services, the silk gown usually worn by the Clergy might be substituted for the *blue coat and navy button*. The Department acceded to the request, and issued a circular to that effect. Now, if any one supposes this originated in a spirit of sectarianism, or that there is any thing in it which squints at Episcopacy, I can only say it had its sources mainly with those who do not belong to that persuasion, and who can find more important features of distinction than those which lie between a blue and a black coat. Or, if any one thinks the *blue coat and navy buttons* a more appropriate costume for a Clergyman while performing religious services, than a plain black gown—so be it. There is no accounting for tastes. Or, if any one thinks a Chaplain in the Navy should have no uniform at all, no evidences of his office, no outward tokens of his profession, I leave him to the *simplicity* of his idea.

This is written as an act of justice to the late head of the Navy Department, and would be anonymous, could it have, in that shape, the authority which may, perhaps, be given it by the name of its author.

WALTER COLTON,
Chaplain U. S. Navy.

LIBERALITY OF SAILORS.—The wife of a shipmaster who was absent on a long voyage, and who has met with reverses, being absolutely reduced to want, and the fact coming to the knowledge of some shipmasters of Boston, \$300 were promptly raised and presented to the lady for present use. The sailor's heart is as free and open as the boundless ocean he navigates.

NATURAL FOUNTAIN OF HYDROGEN GAS AT FORT GRATIOT.—Dr. Smith, of the Medical and Surgical Journal, is indebted to Lieutenant Marcy, of the U. S. Army, for the following account of a natural curiosity in the Western country:

I have just returned from a visit to a place a short distance from here, where a discovery has recently been made which appears to me to be very curious. A farmer, about six miles from here, was boring for water, and had penetrated the earth one hundred and fifteen feet, when, upon drawing out his augur, he heard a deep gurgling noise at the bottom of the hole he had made, and immediately a column of gas burst from it with the most terrific violence, rising to the height of seventy feet, carrying with it stones and pieces of clay the size of a pigeon's egg, and attended with a noise very similar to that of letting off steam from a large steamboat. This continued with unabated violence, for thirty-six hours, when it moderated a little, and a pipe was inserted in the hole with a stop-cock. The proprietor has attached

to this smaller pipes, which convey the gas into his house, and light it in the most brilliant manner imaginable. It appears to be hydrogen gas, almost pure; it burns with a lambent blue flame, without odor, extinguishes flame when immersed in it, and possesses the properties of hydrogen, according to all the tests that it was in my power to apply at the time.

On the morning of the 22d of February, the elegant company of U. S. Light Artillery from the Barracks, visited town under the command of Lieutenant DEAS, and after parading through the various streets, were drilled for an hour or two in the square. This spectacle attracted, as the exciting and beautiful drills of the Artillery seldom fail to, a very large crowd of lookers-on, and elicited the highest admiration of all. The skill, precision and promptness with which the rapid and difficult movements of this corps are performed, exhibits the utmost perfection of discipline and reflects distinguished credit upon both officers and men. Capt. WASHINGTON's company has rendered itself popular here, not only for its fine soldierly appearance, which makes it an ornament to our town, but for the excellent general deportment of the men. *Carlisle (Pa.) Herald.*

Lieut. A. Montgomery, accompanied by Lt. Humber and twenty men, all of the 7th infantry, left this place yesterday for the Choctawhatchee. They are under orders to examine that region for the purpose of ascertaining whether any Indians are lurking there, and also to seize the perpetrators of the late murder of Mr. Sadars. We understand that Mr. Nunes accompanies the expedition as far as the site of his camp, where the attack was made upon him and his companies.—*Pensacola Gazette, Feb. 24.*

POTOMAC AQUEDUCT.—We publish with pleasure the annexed proceedings of the Board of Directors of the Alexandria Canal Company. It is only necessary to see the stupendous work mentioned, to be satisfied that neither the skill and perseverance of Major Turnbull, nor the difficulties to be overcome in the accomplishment of a work so unprecedented, are exaggerated.—*Alexandria Gazette.*

DECEMBER 21, 1843.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Alexandria Canal Company, this day, the following preamble and resolutions were read and unanimously adopted:

Whereas Major WILLIAM TURNBULL, who was detailed by the Chief of the Topographical Bureau, under the orders of the President of the United States, to superintend the construction of an Aqueduct across the Potomac River for the Alexandria Canal Company, to connect their work with the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, has, after a long and arduous service, brought that great work to a successful termination, in despite of great and manifold difficulties and discouragements, and is about to close his official connection with this company; and the Presi-

dent and Directors cannot, consistently with their feelings of regard for the man, and the faithful and devoted services of the officer, permit the occasion to pass without a full expression of their sentiments: Therefore,

Resolved, That the President and Directors of the Alexandria Canal Company, for themselves personally, and on behalf of the Company they represent, tender to Major Turnbull the expression of their thanks, and of their unabated confidence in the zeal, ability, and integrity, with which he has so long conducted the business of this company committed to his charge.

Resolved, That, were it necessary for this Board to express their opinion of the capacity and talents of Major Turnbull as an engineer, they would do so with alacrity, and in the highest terms; but they conceive that so long as the massive piers of the Aqueduct, shall stand on their rock foundations, thirty-seven feet below the tide of the Potomac, they will be an enduring monument of his science, skill, and energetic character, displayed in the successful accomplishment of a submarine structure of regular masonry, in a depth of water previously unknown in the annals of engineering.

Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing preamble and resolutions be signed by the President and all the Directors of this Company, and attested by the Clerk, and that the President be requested to forward the same to Major Turnbull, with the best wishes of the individual members of this Board, for his happiness, prosperity, and future usefulness.

Resolved, That a copy of the same be forwarded to Col. J. J. Abert, chief of the Topographical Engineers, with the thanks of this Board for the constant friendship and kindness evinced by him towards the Company.

From the Minutes. Teste:

R. JOHNSON, Clerk.

A number of the citizens of Louisville have caused to be prepared a beautiful gold medal, which they have presented to Mr. James W. Wales, the Purser's clerk, of the United States brig Somers, through whose means the mutiny on board that vessel was first discovered. Mr. Wales has been for some time a resident of Louisville, and the medal is given as a testimonial of the estimation his services on that trying occasion have procured for him from those who are his neighbors. On one side of the medal is the following inscription:

"The citizens of Louisville, Kentucky, testify their gratitude and admiration for the heroic conduct and fearless fidelity of JAMES W. WALES, on board the brig Somers, Nov. 26th, 1842, when mutiny was about to cause the destruction of the lives of American seamen."

On the other side:

"A testimonial of the people to an American seaman, who performed his duty in the hour of peril."

WESTERN POSTS.—The following items have been furnished us by an officer who has recently visited the western posts as far as Fort Leavenworth.

Fort Leavenworth on the Missouri, twenty-five miles from the mouth of Kansas, garrisoned by four troops of dragoons, and two companies of infantry; commanded at present by Major Wharton, of the dragoons, Captains Cooke and Moore of the dragoons, Captain Clark, of the 3d infantry, Lieutenants McCrate, Bowman, Rucker, Smith, Carleton, Love, and Noble, of the dragoons, Lieuts. Henry, Bowman, Brooks, and McClellan, of the 3d infantry. This post is in an unfinished state, and quarters are not to be had unless families are incommoded.

Fort Scott, on the Marmiton, 120 miles south of Fort Leavenworth, garrisoned by Graham's and McCall's companies of the 4th infantry, and Terrett's of the dragoons. Major Graham commanding. Capt. McCall, Capt. Terrett, Lieuts. Ewell, dragoons, R. E. Cochrane, Berry, Norton, and Halloway, of the 4th infantry. This post was laid out by Capt. Moore, of the dragoons, in 1842, and is now in course of construction, under charge of Capt. Sword's dragoons, Ass. Q. M. Cheap, but elegant and comfortable quarters are being erected.

Fort Gibson is on the Arkansas, or the Neosho, near the junction of the two rivers; commanded by Lieutenant Col. Loomis, 6th infantry, Boone's and Steen's troops of dragoons, and Cady's, Ketchum's, Wood's, and Todd's companies of the 6th infantry. Present, Captains Boone and Steen, dragoons; Cady, Ketchum, (Ass. Q. M.) Woods, and Todd; Lieuts. Chilton, Rust, and Stanton, of dragoons; Lieuts. Walker, Lovell, Wharton, Belger, (Adjt.) Nelson, McLaws, and Kirkham; Surg. Randall; Asst. Surg. McCormick. The health of this post has improved vastly in a few years. As a steam saw mill is at work, it is to be hoped that Congress will give money enough to build a healthy set of quarters, instead of the rotten pig styes the troops have lived in for twenty years!

Fort Smith is the Headquarters of the 2d military department. Gen. Taylor, commanding department, Capt. Bliss his Asst. Adjt. Gen. The post commanded by Major Hoffman, 6th infantry. The garrison, Searight's and Hoffman's companies of 6th infantry. Present, Captains Searight and Hoffman; Lieutenants Johnson, Foote, Fitzgerald, Garnett. The troops live in huts half a mile from the new fort, and need good quarters very much.

Fort Towson, commanded by Bvt. Maj. Andrews, garrisoned by Noel's, Andrews', Crosman's, and Alexander's companies, 6th infantry. Present, Captain Alexander; Lieuts. Monroe, Easton, Hendrickson, Wetmore, Bacon, Ernst, and Lay. The quarters are nearly finished here under charge Captain Collins, Asst. Quarter Master.

Fort Washita. Bvt. Maj. Beall, rifles, commanding; Swords' troop of dragoons; Beall's, Howe's, and Blake's companies of rifles. Present, Cpts. Howe and Blake, rifles; Lieuts. Johnston, Gardiner, and Anderson, dragoons; Lieuts. Merrill, Newton, Rogers, McDonald, rifles. This is a new post, twenty miles from Texas and 100 miles west of Arkansas, on the False Washita river, it is in the Chickasaw district of the Choctaw nation. Quarters are being erected in a rude manner. The importance of this position is becoming more manifest, as settlers thickened across Red river in Texas.

Communication.**HISTORICAL NOTES.—No. IV.****FIRST PROPOSITION TO FORM THE STATE OF KENTUCKY.**

A meeting of a number of the inhabitants of Kentucky was held at Danville, in November, 1784, for the purpose of concerting the means of general security against an expected invasion of the Cherokees. At this meeting, which had been proposed by Colonel Logan, it was recommended to the people throughout the district to elect delegates to a Convention to meet at the same place, on the 27th of the following month, (December 1784,) to take into consideration the important subject of self-defence. The elections were held, and the representatives assembled at the time and place appointed. After a session of ten days, the prevailing opinion of the Convention was embodied in a resolution in favor of applying for an act to render Kentucky independent of Virginia.

"Thus dawned the aurora of separation, which some hailed with auspicious invocations, and others deprecated with ominous forebodings. In fact it suggested an untried state of things, not destitute of risk, when viewed as relative to the heterogeneous mass of people from all countries within; or the feeble state of the confederation, and the numerous enemies without, who might assail its infancy."

"There was, notwithstanding, a decided majority in the Convention in favor of applying for the separation. But, as the idea had not been suggested before they were elected, (10) and they could not say they were elected for that purpose, they declined making the application—but very earnestly recommended it to the people of the district, by a resolution, that they should at their respective county elections, in April of the next year, (1785,) for members of the Legislature, also choose members to meet in convention, in the May following, at Danville, for the express purpose of considering and deciding on the propriety and expediency of applying to the General Assembly for an act of separation, and permission to become an independent member of the Union."—See Marshall, I. 191—195; Butler, 144—146; and Morehead, 115—117.

NOTE (10.)

The idea of a separation from Virginia was suggested much earlier; and the application for the separation was made, in the first instance, not to the Legislature of that Commonwealth, but to the Congress of the United States. The annexed Petition to lay off Kentucky Settlement, westward of the Cumberland Mountains, in a Free Independent State, prepared and signed in the autumn of 1783, and forwarded to Congress a year prior to the meeting at Danville, in December, 1784, was among the first movements made by the

people of Kentucky to form a separate State government. It may be remarked, as an extraordinary fact in the history of that State, that such a paper, signed by so large a number of the then inhabitants, should have been utterly forgotten within the space of thirty years.

To his Excellency the President and Hon. Delegates of the U. S. of America in Congress assembled.

The memorial and petition of a number of inhabitants of Kentucky settlement, westward of the Cumberland mountains, on the waters emptying into the Ohio river, humbly sheweth:

That your memorialists have, at a great expense and hazard, removed themselves to this country, (and some of us at the expense of our all,) with our families, on which they hoped to settle, and enjoy the remainder of their days in peace and happiness; but they are sorry to be under the disagreeable necessity to complain, they are disappointed in their expectations.

Your honors will please to observe that when the state of Virginia opened a land office for the locating of land on the western waters, there were commissioners appointed for certain districts in the western territory, to settle and adjust the claimants' titles for services done, improvement made on waste unappropriated land in said country, for which they were entitled to certain quantities of land, whose powers were limited for a certain time, but from unforeseen casualties, the great distance of the way, the commissioners' powers expired before many of us could attend to lay in our claims, and many that did attend, for want of evidence in time to prove their services and improvements, lost the just right, and, for reasons unknown to your memorialists, when the commissioners' powers by act of Assembly were prolonged in the other districts, the commissioners of Kentucky district were discontinued, to the great loss of our just claims and rights; and others of us being unacquainted with the late law establishing a Land Office, were in expectation of obtaining a reasonable settlement in waste unappropriated land, as formerly in frontier unsettled countries, but to their great loss and surprise were disappointed. Having sold our little property, the real unavoidable expense in moving such a great distance, the sudden depreciation of the bills of credit, and the remoteness of our situation, rendered it almost impracticable for us to procure land warrants in time to secure a small quantity of land any way tolerable to live on.

We would further beg leave to observe that while we were struggling with all the difficulties, hardships, and dangers of settling a remote new country, under the disadvantage of a bloody, cruel war, protecting and defending our families and all that was dear and near to us, (and, as might be said, at our own expense,) from a barbarous, savage enemy, numbers of monied gentlemen in the settlement, who lived in security and affluence and no ways contributed towards the defence or settling of this country, monopolized great part of the valuable lands in their hands, to the great discouragement and hindrance of the equitable settlement thereof. (It is a well known truth that the

riches and strength of a free country does not exist in property being vested in a few individuals, but the more generally it is distributed, the more it promotes industry, population, and frugality, and even morality.)

Although we with gratitude acknowledge, that several gentlemen inhabitants of this settlement, of fortune and influence, who had engrossed large quantities of land, when this country was invaded by the enemy, generously stepped forth in defence of their country and some of them nobly fell in the conflict whose memory we honor or revere.

That a number of your memorialists, from the causes abovesaid, and their having hitherto been constrained to live in forts and stations for their own safety and defence, and generally on land claimed by other persons, have spent the most of their little effects brought with them, which has rendered them unable either to move away, or purchase land at the advanced price the monopolizers hold it; and now, after our long struggle in defending the country, and the land they pretend to hold, at our own expense, with the great loss of blood and treasure, be forced to give an exorbitant price, or rent the land we have been fighting for, or turn off, we complain of as a great hardship and grievance.

We would further represent, that kind Providence has been very bountiful to the remote inland country, in supplying it with a number of salt springs, which we humbly conceive ought to be held sacred and for the use of the community in general; but we are sorry to say they are engrossed by individuals and mostly non-residenters of this settlement, that they have exacted extravagant rents for the privilege of making salt, which has greatly enhanced the price of that most useful necessary article.

Your memorialists would further beg leave to observe, that from our local situation, nature placed us at too great a distance from the State of Virginia to be governed by one legislature. The nature of our circumstances differ so materially, that it is almost impossible for the legislature of Virginia, at such a distance, to frame such salutary, wholesome laws, that might in all cases answer the weal and interest of this country; that salutary laws made for our ease and comfort from our remote situation, either expire or lose their good intentions before we have timely notice thereof; that from our situation we cannot have that equitable representation we are entitled to; that residenters and men that have families to take care of and provide for, let them be ever so well qualified, decline the arduous task to represent us in Assembly, unless they have private business of their own to induce them to attend, and be so long absent from their interest and families; that all the public business of this settlement is transacted and governed by the legislature of Virginia; that most of the profitable posts and offices are held by non-residenters and transacted by their deputies; that all grants and patents for land and other public offices, are transacted and done in Virginia, by which and other means all the little ready specie that can be collected is drained out of this settlement, to the great damage and impoverishing thereof; that the salaries and fees of public

offices, levies, and taxes, raised, are all rated in tobacco, which, from its fluctuating price, makes it very uncertain, and this settlement as yet raises no tobacco for exportation, it lays the assessors and collectors under great difficulties to collect the levies and taxes, and leaves a door open for the public offices to exact exorbitant fees, &c.

Thus may it please your honors we once more make bold to lay before you a few of our many grievances, which we humbly conceive, either from inclination, or want of proper information, cannot be so salutarily remedied, but by them who have a feeling knowledge thereof.

We, therefore, your humble petitioners, most earnestly pray, that the honorable Congress will condescend to take under consideration our many grievances and difficulties which we set forth and labor under, and lay off Kentucky settlement westward of the Cumberland mountains, in a free, independent State, (reserving to Congress the power and authority, as population increases, for ease and comfort of the inhabitants, to subdivide the same,) and receive into the federal Union to enable us to enjoy the freedom and blessings of our fellow citizens; and we your petitioners, on our part, do promise and engage to support civil government and the federal Union to the utmost of our power and ability, which, from the rapid immigration now taking place, we hope we shall with honor and reputation be able to perform. And grant us such further relief in the premises, as to Congress in their judgment and wisdom shall think equitable and just, and your honors' petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

Alexander Neely,
William Miller,
Jno. Jones,
John Jack,
Stephen Archer,
Solomon Lawrence,
George Willcox,
Jas. Brown,
James Currey,
Isaac Crawford,
James Dunn,
Edward Taylor,
Daniel Brown,
Archibald Hopkins,
George White,
Charles Dolemon,
Francis Rolne,
Andrew Dodds,
William Shaw,
James Beid,
Samuel Clark,
Hugh Logan,
Robert Davee,
William Griffin,
Jonathan Logan,
Matthew Logan,
James Logan,
Christopher Jones,
John Martin,
Samuel Martin,
James Asturgus, sen.
James Asturgus, jun.
Robert Mayes,
Christopher Shiels,
James Anderson,
John Edgroom,
Samuel Hubbs,

John Eastword,
John Sturgis,
John Sanders,
Christopher Fort,
Turner Oliver,
Richard Breaden,
James Swan,
Peter Miller,
James Dunbar,
Benjamin Taylor,
Aaron Horton,
John Williams,
John Matthews,
Andrew Gregory,
Jacob Cass,
Richard Gregory,
Jacob Hubbs,
Richard Applegate,
James Shanon,
George Leech,
Mineard Asturgus,
William Cummins,
Philip Shulte,
Samuel Burks,
Elisha Estes,
Elisha Freeman,
Joseph Park,
John Reed,
James Galloway,
Anthony Junkins,
Joseph W. Grimhart,
Jacob Williams,
Eanos Harned,
Wm. Harned,
Robert Mosley,
Jesse Clark,
Martin Coleman,

Richard Simmons,
David Hawkins,
Joseph Glenn,
John Overall,
John Hawkins,
David Hawkins, jr.
Jacob Bayars,
William Chapman,
Peter Lovell,
Robert Edmiston,
David Emiston,
Samuel Stevenson,
David Sinawalt,
David Blanchard,
Meacey Apelgate,
Francis Leech,
Alex. McConnell, jr.,
James Warson,
William Drennon,
Moses Kilpatrick,
John Reead,
Joseph Moore,
William Moore,
Robert Finley,
Michael Woods,
John Wallace,
John Finley,
William Woods,
James Moore,
Michael W. Farris,
Joseph Moore, jr.
William Moore,
Alexander Douglas,
William Kincaid,
William Little,
Samuel Abernathy,
Peter Dumaree, sen.
Samuel Dumaree,
Peter Dumaree,
Abraham Dumaree,
David Dumaree,
James Dumaree,
Robert Canady,
Mark Lee,
John Kincaid,
Moor Kincaid,
David Kincaid,
Joseph Shaw,
William Shaw,
James Shaw,
John Anderson,
James Anderson,
Isaac Anderson,
William Anderson,
John Anderson, jr.,
William Zeckledge,
Joseph Brown,
his
Charles Lee,
mark
John Anderson,
Thos. Bull,
John Davis,
Isaac Goodin,
Michael Paul,
Samuel Lee,
Philip Tayler,
Mesheck Carter,
Richard Skaggs,
Josiah Lee,
Abijah Luis,
William Bosnell,
John McElhose,
William Downs,
Henry Grass,
John Cline,

Moses Nelson,
Richard Perry,
Samuel Apelate,
Thos. Freeman,
Lombart Dorland,
W. Neblack,
John Snaddy,
Chales Williams,
James Vorees,
Lancelot Junken,
William Lock,
Proston Denywood,
Pepter Newkirk,
Tobias Newkirk,
Benjamin White,
Benjamin Newkirk,
Charles Hounsby,
Petter Clines,
Stephen John Francis,
Edward Matthews,
James Hougland,
Elias Newkirk,
Jesse Davis,
Richard Hougland,
James Stevenson,
Jacob Wheat,
John McLean,
James Boyd,
Peter Warran,
John Martin,
John Thickstun,
John Abbat,
John Galloway,
Martain Roase,
John Prior,
John Shaw,
Gottlieb Roob,
Fillipp Lietz,
Peter Barthness,
David Jones,
Anthony Phelps,
Mat Bemplin,
Jeremiah McNew,
John E. Searcy,
John Fooks,
William Steel,
John Beare,
Page Portwood,
Thos. Portwood,
John McConwoy,
John Hughes,
Micajah Mayfield,
Peter Younge, sen.,
John Mundell,
John Dunlap,
Peter Younge, jun.,
Christian Younge,
Robert Tyler,
John Severns,
Thos. Harrison,
Adam W. Wible,
John Friggs,
John Lee,
Jas. Conway,
William Whitheade,
William Stevenston,
Alexander McLain,
Joseph Mitchell,
John McConnell,
Daniel Campbell,
Allen Campbell,
Alex. McConnell,
John Barber,
Samuel Buchan,
Joseph Bown,
John Anderson,

Thomas Bull,
John Davis,
John Bull,
Isaac Gooden,
Michael Paul,
Samuel Lee,
Philip Taylor,
Mesheck Carter,
Richard Skeggs,
Josiah Lee,
Abijah Luis,
William Bethell,
John Milhose,
William Downs,
Henry Gross,
John Cline,
James Sheldes,
James Skaggs,
Henry Skaygs,
James Skaygs,
Jarm. Skaygs,
William Skaygs,
Ebenezer Osborn,
Matha Roogan,
James Crook,
Thomas Goodin,
Jesse Reed,
Joseph Black,
Morris Bredy,
James Brown,
Samuel Brown,
Solomon Brandage,
William Zickledge,
Christopher Jones,
John Martin,
Samuel Martin,
Amos Goodwin,
Robert Gilmore,
William Goodwin,
John Gilmore,
John McClintuck,
Mr. Paddock,
John Daugherty,
Edward Goodwin,
Christian Waynman, jr.,
Christ. Waynman, sen.,
John Rees,
Philip Walker,
Archibald Lockard,
David Allen,
John Kidd,
Cornelius Bryon,
Josiah Scoggin,
Thomas Hooper,
William Aldridge,
Abednego Carter,
Joseph Brooke,
Benjamin Cleaver,
Joseph Wilson,
John Tait,
Daniel Banta,
Reuben Kemp,
Samuel Miller,
Samuel Clark,
Wm. Wilkinson,
James Turner,
Samuel Demere,
Luke Voress,
Edward Holemar,
Robert Foreman,
Jeremiah Boone,
John McMamess, jr.,
John McCasland,
William Rice,
Joseph Lock,
Oesborn Bland,

William Bunos,
William Casbon,
Valentine Nickels,
William Nelson,
William Celly,
David Mitchell,
William Mitchell,
Michael Warnock,
William Galloway,
Charles Duncan,
Spencer Read,
Benjamin Roberts,
Benjamin Pursel,
Laurence Pursel,
Charles Whitticher,
Thomas Hurley,
James Davis,
Joseph Reed,
Isaac Moollard,
John Miles,
Adam Motheral,
Bryan Severns,
Samuel Stouthern,
William Cleaver,
Abraham Hornbeck,
Larance Smith,
John Riche,
William Hacker,
John Hacker,
John Jones,
Mathrow Flornlow,
James Ray,
James Dougharty,
David Pots,
Samuel Pots,
Josiah Hunt,
John McKinny,
Joshua Archer,
James W. McKenny,
Samuel Brevy,
James Kincaid,
William Steel,
Joseph Willson,
Abraham McClellan,
John Sellers,
Levi Scott,
Elisha Scott,
James Kerr,
Samuel Dunn,
William Lawrence,
Michael Segon,
William Lawrence, jr.,
George Woot,
James Baxter,
Andrew Jonsten,
Robert Laurence,
William Baxter,
George Garneck,
Joseph Laurence,
Jsh. Emison,
James Allen,
Charles Harrah,
William Gracey,
James Brenton,
Henry Brenton,
Robert Brenton,
John Brenton,
James Brenton,
John Hamilton,
John Sempter,
Henry Thomas,
James Richard,
Cornelius Banta,
Samuel Lock,
Jas. Stewart,
Henry Spilman,

Robert Johnston,
John Davis,
Michael Hogge,
John Sellers,
James Pursley,
Nathan Sellers,
Thomas Geast,
Henry Laroy,
William M. Cune,
Joseph Wilson,
Thos. Winillin,
Edward Coombs,
Andrew Casselman,
Jacob Castleman,
Reuben Case,
George Ciresonsten,
David McFall,
Shadrack Carter,
John Keith,
Wm. Keith,
Leven Sprigg,
Stephen Virletone,
William Kendall,
Samuel Vitertow,
Richard Lee,
Samuel Goodin,
Daniel Vittertow,
William Luse,
Daniel Byan,
Benjn. Fowler,
Matthew Rodgers,
Charles Lindsay,
William Lee,
Jonathan Harned,
James Dougherty,
Ernest Miller,
James Hamilton,
John Ervin,
John Biggard,
Samuel Ketchum,
John Brookey,
Samuel Kelly,
Henry McDonnal,
Daniel McClain,
Francis McDonnal,
Adam Shumal,
John Rutty,
Nicholas Brobston,
John Sloan,
James McDonnal,
Hugh McDonal,
William Martin, jr.,
James Biard,
Zachariah Hale,
David Yexel,
Joseph Baird,
William Wright,
Thos. Baird,
Thos. Morton,
Proctor Ballard,
Francis Nash,
John Bell,
Dennis Pursel,
Conrad Hurts,
George Hurts,
John Wilson,
Jacob Bayton,
Cornelius Bouyard, jr.,
John Vincent,
Daniel Veich,
Andrew Corn,
James Poore,
Solomon Corn,
Edward Corn,
John Lapsay,
Edward Corn, sen

James Collings,
James Coburns,
Samuel Dura,
John Kirkland,
Comelis Vorees,
Hendrick Banta,
James Horror,
Saml. Chesterfield,
William Halt,
Samuel Demere,
Daniel Banta,
Cornelius Bogart,
Peter Banta,
Henry Banta,
Lucas Vanarsdal,
Peter Banta,
Saml. Banta,
Abraham Kieler,
Isac Bogert,
Peter Banta,
John Voorhes,
Nicholas Strayer,
Paul Eike,
Albert Fookes,
Simon Vanarsdal,
James Semine,
John Fornis,
Frederick Russel,
Alexander Blair,
Henry Hall,
Abraham Banta,
Barney Smock,
John Cumminger,
Enos McDonald,
Robert McDonald,
Alexander McDonald,
Francis McDonell,
Andrew McDonal,
John McDonal,
Abraham Brewer,
Aaron Menfort,
Josiah Boones,
Charles McDougall,
Thomas Lonnell,
James Stevenson,
Adam Fisher,
John Little,
William Little,
Richard Steel,
Thomas Jameson,
George Douglas,
Bazil Maxfet,
Samuel Gordin,
William Watts,
Adam Smith,
Henry Greider,
Zachariah Smith,
John Martin,
John Leveridge,
Hugh Johnston,
John Rowe,
James Bryan,
James Smith,
John Causwell,
Alexander McCormick,
William Man,
Jackel Husman,
Widdow Smith,
Widdow Kennedy,
Dennis Cougheran,
Even Geilbreath,
Robert Devess,
Josiah Black,
Thomas Black,
Andrew Walker,
John Reagh,

Edward McCoey,
James Renick,
John Sloane,
Robert Dobson,
William Smith,
Thomas Williams,
John Boyd,
George Givens,
James Warren,
Isaac Wilcox,
Wm. Warren,
Wm. Dyer,
Thomas Shannon,
John Warren,
Martin Warren,
David Warren,
Hugh Henry,
Hugh Henry, jr.,
David Henry,
Isaac Henry,
William Cann,
James Dunn,
Robert Broust,
Moses Cherry,
William Gerret,
Joseph Black,
William Wilson,
James Wilson,
Asakel Nones,
George Clark,
William Steel, jr.,
Joseph Steel,
John Steel,
Chorls Duncink,
Spencer Reid,
Benjamin Roberts,
Benjamin Pursley,
Laurens Pursley,
Charles Whiteair,
Thomas Horylees,
James Davis,
Joseph Reed,
Isaac Moolord,
John Meles,
Adam Motharl,
Bryan Severns,

Samuel Stoutham,
William Oliver,
Abraham Hornbook,
Francis Smith,
John Boach,
William Hacker,
John Hacker,
John Silvertooth,
James Beard,
Zachariah Hobe,
David Yexal,
Joseph Band,
Thomas Mortan,
Thomas Baird,
Horsom Enesull,
Robert Rool,
Joseph Musnot,
Prockter Ballard,
Francis Nash,
John Ball,
John Vaneleve,
Dennis Pursel,
Conrad Kirts,
George Kirk,
William Toddy,
Com. Toddy,
Hugh Coughry,
Thomas Smith,
John Corchuren,
Joseph Garshuld,
George Scot,
David Dust,
John Hinch,
Joseph Rolortson,
James Rolartson,
Matthew Robinson,
Andrew Lare,
Samuel Sellers,
John Vaneleve,
William Woods,
Joseph Sellers,
Mahen Bartley,
John Silvers,
James Pierce,
James Davis.

This Petition was read in Congress on the 2d of January, 1784. It is not noticed on the Journal, nor does it appear that there were any proceedings upon it.

The names of the signers have been carefully compared with the original, yet it is probable there are errors in many of them.

P. F.

PROPELLER.—Capt. R. F. LOPER, of Philadelphia, has invented a new steamboat propeller, which differs from all others in the shape and the greater length of the buckets, and the mode of attaching them to the axis upon the turn. In the Ericsson Propeller a wheel or broad circle of iron is attached to the axis, and into this wheel the buckets are fastened; but in the invention in question the wheel is dispensed with, and buckets, similar in appearance to the sails of a windmill, are inserted, at a certain angle, directly into the axis. One of Capt. LOPER's Propellers was attached to the steamboat Ericsson on Monday afternoon, and fully tested. The vessel passed rapidly up and down the Delaware, in front of the city of Philadelphia, several times, against the wind and tide, both of which set strongly against her.

Proceedings in Congress.**SENATE.**

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1844.

The PRESIDENT laid before the Senate a report from the War Department, in compliance with a resolution of the Senate of the 21st inst., on the practicability and expense of erecting a fortification on the east side of Dauphin island; referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 1844.

Immediately after the reading of the journal of yesterday,

The following message was received from the President of the United States by the hands of his private Secretary, JOHN TYLER, jr. It was read, as follows: *To the Senate and*

House of Representatives of the United States:

I have to perform the melancholy duty of announcing to the two Houses of Congress the death of the Hon. Abel P. Upshur, late Secretary of State, and the Hon. Thomas W. Gilmer, late Secretary of the Navy.

This most lamentable occurrence transpired on board the United States ship of war the Princeton, on yesterday, at about half after four o'clock in the evening, and proceeded from the explosion of one of the large guns of that ship.

The loss which the government and the country have sustained by this deplorable event is heightened by the death, at the same time, and by the same cause, of several distinguished persons and valuable citizens.

I shall be permitted to express my great grief at an occurrence which has so suddenly stricken from my side two gentlemen, upon whose advice I so confidently relied in the discharge of my arduous task of administering the office of the executive department; and whose services, at this interesting period, were of such vast importance.

In some relief of the public sorrow which must necessarily accompany this most painful event, it affords me much satisfaction to say that it was produced by no carelessness or inattention on the part of the officers and crew of the Princeton; but must be set down as one of those casualties which, to a greater or less degree, attend upon every service; and which are invariably incident to the temporal affairs of mankind.

I will also add, that it in no measure detracts, in my estimation, from the value of the improvements contemplated in the construction of the Princeton, or from the merits of her brave and distinguished commander and projector.

JOHN TYLER.

WASHINGTON, February 29, 1844.

The message having been read,

Mr. RIVES rose and addressed the Senate as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT: The general feeling of the Senate has, I am sure, already anticipated me in what I have risen to suggest. The awful calamity communicated to us in the message of the President just read, and which has made of yesterday, with all its unearthly brightness, one of the darkest and most inauspicious days in our national calendar, is but too well known to the Senate, in all its dreadful details and heart-rending results. Surely, Mr. President, never, in the mysterious ordinances of God, has a day on earth been marked in its progress by such startling and astounding contrasts—opening and advancing with hilarity and joy, mutual congratulation and patriotic pride, and closing in scenes of death and disaster, of lamentation and unutterable woe. It was my sad fortune, Mr. President, to be an eye-witness of these

never-to-be-forgotten events. If I had language to describe them, the power of speech would fail me.

I have risen, in the midst of the universal sadness and dejection of heart which prevail around me, and under the overpowering weight of my own feelings, to suggest the propriety of suspending our ordinary labors and pursuits, in the presence and under the chastisement of this awful visitation of Providence. It has fallen to the lot of my own State to be the chief mourner on this melancholy occasion. Two of her distinguished citizens, filling high places in the civil government of the country, have been cut down in the midst of their days and their usefulness; and another of her sons, a gallant officer of the navy, has been destined to fall, by disastrous accident, on a deck which, under other circumstances, he might have illustrated by his valor.

But, in so overwhelming a calamity, which stands almost without a parallel in the records of human misfortune, all bear their equal and sympathizing share. Surrounded, as we are, on every hand, by the desolate wailing of the widow, and the helpless cry of the orphan, none of us can be in a state of mind to discharge, with intelligence and composure, the duties which belong to us here.

Let us, then, Mr. President, bowing in all humility of spirit beneath this stroke of an all-wise and mysterious Providence, discard from our minds, for a season, the cares and excitements of our daily duties in this hall. Let us lay to heart the monitory lesson so impressively read to us in the events of yesterday, that "in the midst of life we are in death." With this lesson engraven upon our hearts, let us keep constantly in view the eternal, as well as temporal responsibilities under which all the duties of both public and private life are to be performed. Let the deep sense of common calamity and mutual affliction unite us more closely by the ties of brotherhood and affection. Let us "put away from us all bitterness, and wrath, and evil speaking;" and when we come together again, under these chastening influences, we shall all feel, I trust, how much better patriots we are, for being better christians.

Mr. R. concluded by submitting the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Senate, impressed with the profound sense of the awful calamity which yesterday occurred on board of the steamer Princeton, by the explosion of a gun, involving the loss of many valuable lives, and among them of the Secretary of State and Secretary of the Navy.

Resolved, That the Senate will attend, in a body, the obsequies of the deceased members of the cabinet, and that a committee of five be appointed to make arrangements with such committee as may be appointed on the part of the House of Representatives.

Resolved, That, in consideration of this afflictive dispensation, the Senate do now adjourn to Monday next.

Resolved, That the Senate will go into mourning by wearing crape on the left arm for thirty days.

Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing resolutions be transmitted to the President of the United States.

The resolutions having been read, a message was received from the House of Representatives, by the hands of Mr. McNULTY, their Clerk, announcing the action of that body touching this awful calamity. The message was read, and concurred in.

The resolutions submitted by Mr. RIVES were unanimously agreed to; and

The following senators were appointed a committee of arrangements on the part of the Senate to act in conjunction with the committee on the part of the House of Representatives, viz.: Mr. RIVES, Mr. ARCHER, Mr. KING, Mr. WOODBURY, and Mr. BAYARD.

The Senate then, in accordance with its previous action, adjourned till Monday next.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6.

The bill to repeal so much of the act approved the 23d of August, 1842, as requires the 2d regiment of dragoons to be converted into a regiment of riflemen, after the 4th of March, 1843, was taken up as in committee of the whole, and there being no proposition to amend it, was reported to the Senate, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

THURSDAY, MARCH 7.

The bill to repeal so much of the act of 23d August, 1842, as requires the second regiment of dragoons to be converted into a regiment of riflemen after the 4th of March, 1843, was read a third time, and passed.

FRIDAY, MARCH 8.

The PRESIDENT laid before the Senate a communication from the Navy Department, transmitting, in compliance with a resolution of the Senate of the 16th January last, information in relation to the appointment of acting midshipmen since the 4th of August, 1842; which was ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. WRIGHT presented to the Senate a letter from the clerk of the common council of the city of New York, enclosing a memorial from that board, praying Congress to pass a law authorizing a survey of the coast and harbor of that city, with a view to a new location of the improvements of the navy yard there, and the erection of a dry dock; referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

On motion by Mr. BAYARD, the Committee on Naval Affairs was discharged from the further consideration of the petition of citizens of Maine, praying that the spirit ration in the navy may be discontinued.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13.

The joint resolution from the House, tendering the thanks of Congress to the British authorities at Gibraltar, and the commanding officer and crew of her Majesty's ship Malabar, was read twice, and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

THURSDAY, MARCH 14.

On motion of Mr. SEMPLE, a communication from the Secretary of the Navy, in answer to a resolution adopted on the 31st January, calling for information relative to the cruising of the Home Squadron, was taken from the table and referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

MONDAY, MARCH 18.

Mr. BAYARD, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, to which was referred the bill from the House for the relief of the widows and orphans of the officers, and seamen and marines who were lost on the schooner Grampus, reported the same back without amendment embracing also the case of the schooner Seagull. The amendment was ordered to be printed.

Also, from the same committee, reported a general bill, providing for certain experiments in relation to the proper model or form of steam vessels, or other vessels; and

A bill to consolidate and amend the acts in relation to pensions to widows and orphans of certain naval officers; which bills were read, and ordered to a second reading.

On motion by Mr. TAPPAN, the Senate took up for consideration the resolution which was presented to the Senate some days since, calling upon the Secretary of the Navy to report to the Senate a copy of the proceedings of the court martial in the case of Captain Alexander Slidell Mackenzie.

Mr. T. said he had prepared a modification of the resolution, which, he believed, would not be objected to by senators on either side—those friendly to Capt. Mackenzie or otherwise. He proposed to strike out all after the word resolve, and insert the following, viz :

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Navy be directed to report to the Senate a copy of the proceedings of the court of inquiry and court martial in the case of Capt. Alexander Slidell Mackenzie, with copies of all the correspondence, and all other documents, on the files of that department, in connection with the said court of inquiry and court martial.

The resolution was laid over till to-morrow.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1844.

Mr. MURPHY, from the Committee on Naval Affairs to which was referred the report of the Secretary of the Navy, relative to the construction of a dry-dock in New York harbor, upon the plan of using as an elevating power the water of the Croton Aqueduct, &c., made to the House on the 19th of February instant; and also several petitions of J. S. Gilbert, asking a delay of all action on the subject of floating-docks, and withholding all appropriation until an examination shall be made; made a report thereon, accompanied by an amendment to the naval appropriation bill. Referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and ordered to be printed.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29.

The journal having been read,

A message was received from the President of the United States, by Mr. JOHN TYLER, jr., his private secretary; which will be found in the proceedings of the Senate.

The message having been read,

Mr. HOPKINS rose and said :

Mr. SPEAKER : I have risen to present to this House a series of resolutions touching the melancholy subject of the message which has just been read. If it were becoming in me to speak upon an occasion so mournful, the deep feeling of grief which now pervades the bosom of every member of this House, and in which my own so sincerely and painfully participates, would render me incompetent to the discharge of such a duty. I shall be pardoned, therefore, in declining to utter one word in support of the resolutions which I have the honor of submitting, and which I know will find so generous a response from this body. I send them to the Chair.

Mr. H. then handed up the following resolutions, which were read and unanimously agreed to :

Resolved, That this House has heard, with deep sorrow, of the dreadful catastrophe which occurred yesterday, on board the United States ship-of-war Princeton, when many valuable lives were lost; and by which, amongst others, the Hon. Abel P. Upshur, Secretary of State, and the Hon. Thomas W. Gilmer, Secretary of the Navy, met a sudden and awful death.

Resolved, That this House will manifest its respect for the memory of the late distinguished Secretaries of State and of the Navy, and its sympathy for their bereaved families, by attending their funeral in a body.

Resolved, As a further mark of respect to the deceased, and to manifest our sense of this most melancholy and afflicting dispensation of Divine Providence that this House will transact no legislative business, until after the funeral obsequies of the deceased shall have been performed.

Resolved, That the members of this House will wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

Resolved, That a committee of five members of this House be appointed to make arrangements with such committee as may be appointed on the part of the Senate, for the attendance of the two Houses of Congress at the funeral of the late Abel P. Upshur and Thomas W. Gilmer.

Resolved, That when this House adjourn to-day it will adjourn to meet on Monday next.

Resolved, That the House do now adjourn.

The following is the committee appointed on the part of the House: Mr. HOPKINS, of Virginia; Mr. CAVE JOHNSON, of Tennessee; Mr. C. J. INGERSOLL, of Pennsylvania; Mr. JOHN Q. ADAMS, of Massachusetts; Mr. D. D. BARNARD, of New York.

The House then adjourned.

THURSDAY, MARCH 7.

Mr. MILTON BROWN moved to suspend the rules to enable him to offer a resolution instructing the Committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred the bill to divide the United States into two military districts, to report to the House, when they should make a report on said bill, a communication received from Major General Scott on the same subject. The motion was rejected.

The SPEAKER laid before the House a letter from the Secretary of the Navy, transmitting a statement showing what midshipmen have been allowed to rate as masters' mates, persons who have been entered as landsmen, or boys, &c. Referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

On motion of Mr. McKAY, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, (Mr. DROMGOOLE in the chair,) and took up for consideration the bill (No. 30) making appropriations for the support of the Military Academy.

Mr. HUNGERFORD moved to amend the bill by adding certain provisions; which were considered separately.

The first amendment was to cut off the allowance now paid to military professors. This was lost.

The next amendment was a proviso that no allowances should be made to the French teacher, or drawing master, for servants. Adopted.

The next was a proviso that no extra allowances should be made to the cadets above their pay. Lost.

The next amendment was a proviso that no allowances shall be made for forage, and that no horses shall be kept at the academy. Rejected.

The last amendment of Mr. H. was a proviso that all supernumerary second lieutenants of the army, who have graduated at the Military Academy, shall be disbanded.

Mr. McKAY observed that the gentleman had better offer this amendment when the army bill came up, which would be in a few days. No part of this appropriation, he said, would be applied to the pay of these supernumerary second lieutenants.

Mr. HUNGERFORD then withdrew the amendment.

* Mr. HALE submitted an amendment striking out all after the enacting clause, and submitting a bill repealing the laws authorizing the appointment of cadets, and disbanding the corps.

Mr. H. said he offered this amendment in obedience to the instructions of the legislature of his State; and he must be permitted to say that no legislature ever devolved on a representative a more willing duty, and one more in accordance with all the convictions of his understanding, as well as his sense of propriety and justice. Though this institution had been in existence upwards of forty years, and was kept up at an expense of \$200,000 annually, it failed to furnish officers for the defence of the country, except in times of peace. Of their inefficiency in the Florida war he was fully satisfied. It had now increased to such an extent that the army, consisting of only 7,000 men, had officers enough for an army of 100,000 men, while the academy was annually furnishing forty or fifty more.

Mr. H. contended that there was no more reason and justice in the government educating, gratuitously, young men for the military profession, than for any of the civil employments of the country.

Mr. J. BRINKERHOFF hoped neither the amendment nor the substitute would be adopted. He believed that something of the character of West Point

Academy was necessary, and had been recommended by nearly all our distinguished citizen soldiers since the days of the revolution.

There were he knew, many prejudices existing against West Point, which should be removed. It was a common impression abroad, that the youth appointed to that institution were the sons of the rich and powerful, and the aristocratic; but that was not true. There was, however, a growing ill-will towards that institution; and its friends (of which he professed to be one) should apply needful reforms, and thereby restore it to popular favor. He thought the large number of supernumerary second lieutenants should be discharged; and deemed it necessary that only the engineers and the officers of artillery should be graduates of the academy, and that the other commissions should be open to well-qualified men from civil life, or to operate as a stimulus to the rank and file.

Mr. DANA would vote for the abolition of the Military Academy. He was opposed to it because it was an aristocratic institution. It gave to a few exclusive privileges which it denied to the many. The cadets are an annual charge on the national treasury, without any equivalent. He further objected to the manner of their selection. The appointment of cadets had become an appendage to the membership of Congress, and he objected to the bestowal of these privileges and this patronage on the members of this House. He went through various statistical statements, showing the great and unprofitable expense of the Academy, the number of cadets educated annually, the number that graduated each year, and the respective proportions of the graduates that were placed in the army, and that become a burden on the nation as supernumerary second lieutenants. He also proceeded to show the positive evils that arose in the army itself by such a system—the jealousies, contempts, tyrannies, controversies, ending in courts of inquiry and courts martial, and other evils of considerable magnitude.

Mr. DAVIS offered the following amendment to the amendment of Mr. HALE:

Provided, That the sum heretofore annually expended in support of the Military Academy be expended, under the direction of the Secretary of War, in teaching regular military discipline to the volunteer citizen-soldiery of the several States.

The Committee rose and reported progress.

FRIDAY, MARCH 8.

Mr. MARSH, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported the following joint resolution; which was read three times, and passed:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States be requested to communicate to the British government, in such manner as he may deem proper, the high sense entertained by Congress of the generous zeal displayed by the British authorities at Gibraltar; and the commander, officers, and crew of her Britannic Majesty's ship Malabar, in endeavoring to save from destruction the American steam frigate Missouri, and in preserving the lives of her officers and crew, as well as of the kindness and hospitality which characterized their treatment of the ship's company of that vessel after her destruction by fire.

SATURDAY, MARCH 9.

Mr. HARALSON, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred the bill to repeal so much of the act of 23d August, 1842, as requires the second regiment of dragoons to be converted into a regiment of riflemen, reported the same back, without amendment, and it was referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

MONDAY, MARCH 11.

On motion of Mr. WHITE, it was

Resolved, That the Committee on Naval Affairs be instructed to inquire and report upon the expediency and propriety of amending the law regulating the pay of commissioned officers in the United States marine corps, so that the pay and emoluments of such officers, when attached to sea-going vessels, shall be equal to their compensation when doing duty on shore.

Mr. ASHE offered the following resolution; which, being objected to, lies over one day:

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to inform this House whether the sixth section of the act of Congress, approved by him August 23, 1842, and contemplating eastern and western geographical divisions in the army of the United States, has been carried into execution; whether said divisions do exist, with commandants for each, as contemplated by said section; and if not, the reasons why; whether the appropriations for rations to the commanders of divisions have been applied as provided for by said section; whether a non-execution of this law, as respects divisions and their commanders, does not affect materially the rank, pay, and professional character of Edmund Pendleton Gaines, a major-general in the army, whose acknowledged merit had secured to him a command according to his war brevet of major general, from the 15th August, 1814, until the date of general orders No. 40, of July 12, 1842; whether there are just reasons for withholding from Major General Gaines his major general's command of a division of half of the army; and if any, what; whether there are, also, just reasons for reducing his pay from that of a major general, which he had received for nearly thirty years, to that of a brigadier, as appears by the *Army Register of January of the present year*; and whether or not the principle of depriving officers of commands in the army, by way of punishment, without a charge, specification, or court, is in accordance with the seventy-fifth and seventy-seventh articles of war, as suggested in Major General Scott's report of the 3d November, 1842, recommending that Major General Gaines be placed on a leave of absence as long as the highest in authority deemed proper, has appeared in the degradation of Major General Gaines, and in the reduction of his pay.

Mr. MILTON BROWN offered the following resolution; which was agreed to:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred a bill to divide the United States into two military districts, in addition to the report it may see proper to make on said bill, also report whether a communication has been received by said committee from Major General Winfield Scott, touching the merits of said bill; and if so, that said committee report the same to this House.

TUESDAY, MARCH 12.

On motion by Mr. McKAY, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, (Mr. DROMGOOLE in the Chair,) and resumed the consideration of the bill making appropriations for the support of the Military Academy—the question being on the amendment to the amendment of Mr. HALE, providing that the academy shall be abolished, and that the money heretofore annually appropriated for that institution shall be applied to military education of the militia and volunteers in the States.

Mr. HUNT of New York observed that the propositions now pending before the committee were so diametrically opposite in character as to impart additional interest to the subject. The Committee of Ways and Means had reported a bill making the ordinary appropriations for the support of the Military

Academy; and the gentleman from New Hampshire had submitted an amendment to abolish that institution altogether.

And what institution was this which the gentleman, in his zeal for reform, proposed to abolish? It was an institution recommended by Washington himself, whose military experience was regarded (not only in this country, but by the whole world) with the highest respect; it was established under the administration of Jefferson; every administration since had considered it as a valuable part of the peace establishment; and every military man, from the time of Washington down, highly approved of it, and conceded its necessity.

Mr. HUNT discussed, at some length, the propriety and the necessity of giving an early military training to our military officers, and replied to various objections which had been made to the Military Academy.

Mr. SEYMOUR of Connecticut addressed the committee in opposition to the bill. The State of Connecticut, he said, had, by resolution, requested her representatives not only to vote against this institution, but against all appropriations for its continuance. Mr. S. referred to the official reports of the War Department, for the purpose of showing that a disproportionate number of these cadets, after being educated at the public expense, went into the pursuits of civil life. He also referred to the number of resignations of officers during the Florida war, when their services were needed by their country. He contended that the institution was unnecessary; and that, if it were abolished, the Secretary of War would have numbers of applications to fill the annual vacancies in the army, as well, if not better, qualified for the service than the cadets of West Point.

He had another reason for saying that the Military Academy was unnecessary. He would have the vacancies in the commissioned officers of the army filled up from the army itself. Were there a chance of promotion for the private soldier, the effect would be, in the first place, to put a stop to desertion and improve the recruiting service; and in the second place, they would have what they never had before, under the old system—a republican army, in name and in deed, filled up with worthy, enterprising, and patriotic young men. Under such a system, it would be found that some of the best young men in the country would enter the ranks as private soldiers, with this prospect of promotion before them. And the military institutions of the States would furnish a sufficient number of scientific and literary young men, who would be applicants for commissions in the army.

Mr. HUNGERFORD wished to bring to the notice of the Committee some amendments which he had offered a few days ago. If the effect should be to abolish the Academy altogether he should be better satisfied. He quoted some tabular statements showing that the sum which each graduate costs the country, amounts to \$5,000.

Mr. J. R. INGERSOLL defended the academy generally, and said there never was an institution which had gone through such an ordeal as that to which this academy had been exposed, that had come out of it better in any respect. The New Hampshire resolutions in relation to this institution, he said, were founded in error. He noticed the changes in the law which required the service of eight years in the army from cadets, and pointed out the gallant service which cadets had rendered in the Florida war, where many were severely wounded; and those that fell, fell, Roman like, with their wounds in front and their faces to the foe. He afterwards corrected some errors of statements respecting the supernumerary second lieutenants, who now amounted but to seventy.

After the conclusion of Mr. INGERSOLL's remarks, the committee rose, and reported that they had, as yet, come to no resolution.

The nomination of the Hon. JOHN Y. MASON, of Virginia, to be Secretary of the Navy, was confirmed by the Senate on Thursday last.

The Official Army and Navy Registers for 1844 are for sale at the principal booksellers and stationers.

CORRECTION.—In the article in the last number on the Military Academy, page 347, second and third lines from the bottom, for 26 read 6, opposite "In indigent circumstances" and "In independent circumstances."

ARMY.

TOPOGRAPHICAL ENGINEERS.—Major J. D. Graham, ordered to Portsmouth, N. H., to inspect the work in progress there under the direction of the Topographical Bureau. After which, to resume his duties with the Boundary Commission.

DRAGOONS.—Lieut. Philip Kearny, jr., dragoons, has resigned his staff appointment of aide-de-camp to Major Gen. Scott, and will rejoin his regiment. His successor has not yet been appointed.

4TH INFANTRY.—At the recommendation of the Col. of the regiment, 1st Lieut. H. L. Scott has been transferred from company C to B, and 1st Lieut. C. Hoskins from company B to C.

Naval Intelligence.

List of officers on board the U. S. frigate *Columbia* to sail from Rio Janeiro on the 30th of January for the Mediterranean.

Edward R. Shubrick, Esq., Captain; Lieutenants, John R. Goldsborough, Joseph F. Green, Samuel Larkin, Theodore B. Barrett, Henry L. Chipman; Edward F. Beale, Acting Master; Jno. A. Bates, purser; Solomon Sharp, Surgeon; Jacob Zeilin, Marine officer; Photius Kavasales, Chaplain; Mordecai Yarnall, Professor; Samuel R. Addison, Asst. Surgeon.

Midshipmen; William K. Bridge, Alfred Bailey, Joseph T. Bartlett, Sylvanus J. Bliss, Horace N. Crabb, Francis G. Dallas, T. Brandford Shubrick, John Gale, George N. Hare, David A. McDermot, Arthur H. Otis, John Van Ness Phillips, James S. Thornton, Nicholas H. Van Zandt; Clement H. Stevens, Capt. clerk; Van Rensselaer Hall, Boatswain; Samuel Allen, Gunner; Charles Boardman, Carpenter; James Ferguson, Sail Maker.

Officers attached to the frigate *Potomac*, flag ship of the Home Squadron, now on a cruise in the West Indies, having sailed from Boston the 19th Jan :

David Conner, Commodore Home Squadron.
Thos. M. Newell, Captain.

Lieuts., Sidney S. Lee, 1st, James S. Palmer, 2d, Wm. A. Wurts, 3d, A. A. Holcomb, 4th, Edmund Jenkins, 5th.

Capt. Marines, Benj. Macomber; Fleet Surgeon, James M. Greene; Purser, Philo White; Chaplain, Joseph Stockbridge; Lt. Marines, Thos. A. Brady; Acting Master, James S. Biddle; Commodore's Secretary, Charles T. Stewart; Asst. Surgeon, Charles M. Wheelwright.

Passed Midshipmen, Thos. L. Kinloch, F. A. Parker, B. N. Westcott, and Andrew J. Drake.

Captain's Clerk, Albert B. Ashton; Purser's Clerk, Samuel T. Hooper; Commodore's Clerk, W. D. McLeod; Midshipmen, Julius S. Bohrer, H. St. G. Hunter, R. W. Shufeldt, A. J. Mitchell, F. P. Wheelock, Wm. S. Cushman; Acting do., James M. Cardeza.

Boatswain, M. Hall; Gunner, W. B. Brown; Carpenter, J. Rainbow; Sailmaker, J. Frazer.

On the night following our departure from Boston, William Trefts fell from the mizen chains, and was drowned. The ship was immediately hove to; but the wind blowing fresh, with a heavy sea on, the poor fellow could not be saved. With this exception, no serious accident has occurred on board; and the health of the officers and crew has continued good. Commodore Conner is occasionally troubled with a neuralgic affection, but it is of some years' standing.

Lieut. Wm. P. Griffin, a passenger on board for Havana, for the restoration of his health.

Mar. ARRIVALS AT WASHINGTON.

Asst. Sur. J. Simpson, Fuller's.

Lieut. B. Bragg, 3d artillery, Fuller's.

Lieut. W. H. Warner, top. engrs., Fuller's.

Major S. Ringgold, 3d artillery, Arsenal.

Lieut. W. H. Shover, 3d artillery, Arsenal.

6—Lieut. Lewis Neill, rifles, Brown's.

Major W. Seawell, 7th infantry, Fuller's.

Lieut. T. S. J. Johnson, 8th infantry, Fuller's.

Capt. N. W. Hunter, rifles.

11—Paymaster P. Muhlenberg, Fuller's.

Col. G. Croghan, inspr. gen., Gen. Jessup's.

12—Capt. W. H. Swift, top. engrs., Mrs. Ulrich's.

14—Lieut. Col. M. M. Payne, 4th art., Fuller's.

Capt. J. H. K. Burgwin, dragoons, Galabrun's.

Lieut. Randolph Ridgely, 3d artillery, Fuller's.

Lt. Col. B. K. Pierce, 1st artillery, Gadsby's.

Lieut. J. C. Pemberton, 4th artillery, Fuller's.

Marriage.

At Fort Jesup, Louisiana, on the 29th ultimo, JOSEPH H. BARNES, Assistant Surgeon U. S. Army, to MARY T., daughter of Major T. T. FAUNTLEROY, U. S. Rifles.

Deaths.

In this city, on the 2d instant, GRENVILLE C. COOPER, Purser of the U. S. Navy, in the 44th year of his age.

At Philadelphia, on Thursday afternoon, March 7th, in the 32d year of her age, ANN CATHARINE, wife of Lieutenant FREDERICK A. NEVILLE, of the U. S. Navy, and daughter of ROBERT KENNEDY, Esq., Naval Storekeeper of the station.

AGENCY FOR CLAIMS AT WASHINGTON.—The Undersigned offers his services as Agent for Claims upon either of the Departments or Congress.

Particular attention will be paid to the settlement of accounts of disbursing Officers, who may find it inconvenient to attend personally; especially those of the Navy. His experience and practical knowledge will afford many facilities.

Charges will be moderate and regulated by the amount claimed and the extent of services required. Communications (post paid) will receive immediate attention.

CHAS. DE SELDING,

Office, Sixth-street, next to corner of F.

References.—Commodore Charles Stewart, Commodore John Downes, A. O. Dayton, Esq., 4th Auditor, Treasury Department; A. T. Smith, Esq., Chief Clerk, Navy Department; John C. Rives, Esq., Washington; John Boyle, Esq., Washington; James Hoban, Esq., Washington; Chas. O. Handy, Esq., Purser, U. S. N.; John De Bree, Esq., Purser, U. S. N.; M. R. Waldron, Esq., Purser U. S. N.; Saml. P. Todd, Esq., Purser, U. S. N.

Jan 1-15.

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